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R





*Thus Arm'd, to no Man will I turn my back,
But take from others whatsoe'er I lack:
Stand and deliver are the Words I use,
And at their Perils let Men me refuse.*

THE Scotch Rogue :

OR, THE
LIFE and ACTIONS
OF

Donald Macdonald,

A High-Land Scot :

Relating his being found in the High-way,
and carry'd home by *Curtogh Macdonald*
to his Wife ; and how he was brought up
by them : His Early Waggeries and Vil-
lainies when he came to Riper Years. His
Love-Intrigues, and how many various
Fortunes he went thorow, and the Miseries
that he endur'd : His Extraordinary Wit
and Courage, and how he extricated him-
self out of divers Difficulties, into which
his Rogueries had brought him.

The whole being very Pleasant and Diverſing

*When Men do from the Paths of Virtue run,
They take the readiest Course to be undone :
For be they ne'er so valiant and so stout,
The Hand of Justice always finds them out :
For altho' Justice may be painted blind,
The harden'd Sinner 'twill be sure to find.*

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TO THE READER.

AN D why a Scotch Rogue ! Some will be ready to say : But I say, why not a Scotch Rogue, as well as an English Rogue, a Spanish Rogue, or an Irish Rogue ? As barren as the Soil of this Country is, in other respects, 'tis fruitful enough in this Commodity. And seeing there are Rogues in all other Countries, it wou'd be a Blemish to Scotland to find none there : And if a Rogue be one that lives by his Wits, and is put to his Shifts, I believe Scotland may as well put in for her share of 'em, as any other Country ; for there are many there that have little else to live by : And tho' perhaps an English Man may have more Shirts, a Scotch Man has an many Shifts as he ; and makes as much use of 'em too ; as Donald Macdonald (our Scotch Rogue) will further inform you in the following History of his Life and Fortunes. Nor is this written to affront that Ancient Kingdom of Scotland, (which every Man, that will speak Truth, must own has produc'd as many Worthy and Eminent Persons, Learned in all Faculties, as most Nations in the World) any more than the English Rogue, or Life of Meriton Latroon, was written to affront

To the Reader.

the Kingdom of England; but rather to shew that ill Men in all Nations will act like themselves, that is, will do wickedly, and commit those Crimes that one time or other will bring 'em to condign Punishment: And yet neither the Dangers to which they are so generally expos'd, is able to deter 'em from their Wicked Ways, nor the Profit and Advantage of Honest Courses allure them to the Ways of Virtue.

But as it is scarce to be imagin'd, that in a Battle not one should escape, so it wou'd be very hard to think that not one Rogue shou'd be reclaim'd by seeing the ill Fate of others, and brought to see the real difference between Vice and Virtue; and so avoiding the former, become a sincere Votary to the latter. At least, such Examples may deter those that were just going to plunge themselves into the Mire, and divert them from those Ways which wou'd have brought 'em to inevitable Ruin.

This makes me hope, Reader, that thou wilt be kind to our Scots Rogue; for tho' he has been a false Loon, yet thou may'st reap some advantage by him; especially considering he's a bluff High-Land Rogue, and that with his Gang about him, has made a considerable Figure in his own Country.

THE

THE
Scotch Rogue:

O R,

The Life and Actions of Do-
nald Macdonald, a High-
land Robber.

C H A P. I.

*Giving an Account of what he knew of his
Birth and Parentage, and of the early
Tricks and Rogueries he play'd in his Mi-
nority. How he was put to School, and
how he reveng'd himself of his Master.*

I Have often thought how like the
Progress of my Life was to the
Beginning of it; and how just a
Title I had to Thieving, who was forc'd

by my Parents to steal into the World and they forc'd to steal away from me as soon as I was born, and left me to make the best of my Way. So that tho' I know I had Parents, yet I never knew who they were, nor did they design that any Body else should: And as I knew not my Parents, so neither can I tell the Place of my Birth; but as I have since been informed, I was drop'd and lost, or rather found, at *Ardnaglas*, not far lough *Allin*, in a little obscure Village, and there left to the wide World, but had such Blankets and Cadows in which I was wrapt up, as bespoke my unknown Parents to be of no ordinary Quality: And the Gold that was found with me (the quantity whereof I cou'd never truly learn) was the cause that prevail'd with my Foster-Father to give me House room; for he finding of me laid under a Bush by the side of the Road, wrapt up in a very rich Lac'd Mantle, had the Curiosity to see what I was; and seeing the fine Lace and Silk Mantle, with a Bundle of Cloaths lying by me, takes up all, and covering me with his Plad, carries

ries me to his House ; but telling his Wife he had brought her a Child, which she supposing to be one of his Bastards, takes up a three-legg'd Stool, saying, Ye damn'd leacherous Loon, am not I enough for you to lig by, but you mun bring your Bastards home to kill me ? Upon which the Old Man was forc'd to step aside to avoid the Blow, or else there had been an end of me at once ; and then crying out, What Devil gars the Woman, and shewing her withal, my fine Mantle, she began to be surpriz'd, and enquir'd further into the Matter. And having open'd the Bundle, and therein found the Money, I was admitted into the Family, and had the Name of *Donald Macdonald* given me (*Curtogb Macdonald* being the Name of my Foster-Father, who was descended from the Clan of that Name : But of this I knew nothing till the 15th Year of my Age, and then by chance.) I was brought up with great Care, because they suppos'd those that had left me there, wou'd come and look after me, to whom they suppos'd they were to be account-

accountable for what they found with me; and upon that score it was that I had more than ordinary Respect shewed me by the Old Man, for his Wife never car'd for me; for tho' the rich things they found with me were carefully laid up, yet I appear'd even in my poor Garments, as I have since been told, of a quite different Air from that of their other Children; so that I was admir'd by all that saw me; and they wou'd frequently say, That I differ'd from all the rest of the Children, and was neither like Father nor Mother: However it was, the Gold which they found with me, set 'em in a much better Condition than it found 'em; which made 'em shew the more Respect to me; and as I grew up, I was better clad than the rest, and had more of my suppos'd Father's Favour.

But as much as my pretended Father lov'd me, I had a Design upon his Orchard, which was a very good one, and which he was very chary of, for there was no other Orchard but ours nearer than *Skyrassin*. My Mouth water'd at some delicate choice Pears, which we us'd

us'd to sell at *Skyrassin* Market, and sometimes at *Rowar*, as being very scarce in that part of the Country; and because they yielded a good Price, my Father had counted every one of 'em, and if the Wind at any time had blown one off, he immediately miss'd it, and enquir'd after it: These Reasons kept me from taking any of 'em away, tho' we were permitted oftentimes to play therein. But how to satisfy my Longing, I knew not, until one Day as I was in the Feilds, I saw some Swine rubbing themselves at the bottom of some Oak-Trees, and going near to know the reason of it, I perceiv'd the Acorns to drop, which they presently devour'd, and then began to rub against the Trees again, to shake down more. This Subtilty of the Swine shew'd me the way how to come at the Pears; for when I came home, I left the Orchard Door open for two or three Days together, on purpose that the Swine in the adjoyning Yard might enter; and at length finding one in the Orchard, I climb'd the Tree, and gather'd most of the Fruit, which I secur'd in a Place I had

had before prepar'd for that purpose : And to cover all this the better, I gave the Hog so much of other common Fruit in the Garden, that whosoever had seen him, wou'd have guess'd by his Tun-Belly, that he had been the Author of the Mischief. When I had thus empty'd my Pockets and secur'd my Cargo, I ran in crying, that the Swine, by rubbing himself against the best Pear-Tree, had shaken down and devour'd the Pears, do what I cou'd to drive him away. This made the Old Man put forth all his Activity, and run faster than ordinary into the Garden, where finding the Hog under the Pear-Tree, devouring some Relicks I had left him, he suspected nothing, but drove him away as sorrowfully as he came in angry, threatening, as the utmost that he cou'd do, to kill the Hog at *Christmas*.

And now, as an Effect of the Old Man's Kindness for me, (and of what he got when he first found me) I was put to a School at *Skyrassin*, and afterwards design'd for the University at *Aberdeen* : And here I was put to learn the

the *English* Dialect, for my better Accomplishment, and then to learn the *Latin* Tongue: But I was such a Votary to Play and Roguery, that I was but a sorry Proficient in Learning; being readier at Cat and Doug, Cappy-hole, riding the Hurley Hacket, playing at Kyles and Dams, Spang-Bodle, Wrestling and Foot-Ball, (and such other Sports as we use in our Country) than at my Book; by which I provok'd my Master to that degree, that my Buttocks often felt the weight of his Severity, which I so heinously resented, that the desire of Revenge wou'd not out of my Mind; and I bent all the Wit I was Master of, in studying how to effect it: I thought on many things, but they still prov'd abortive, and one Project jostled out another; some I thought too light, and too easily accomplish'd; and others appear'd too horrid, and too hazardous and full of Danger: For tho' my Invention was pretty fruitful, especially in Mischief, (as many of my School-Fellows had often found to their cost) yet I confess I was now at a stand: But

as the Proverb says, *Seldom ligs the Devil dead by the Dyke side*: That Author of all Mischief wou'd not let me be long quiet, but brought a lucky Thought into my Mind, which gave me some rude and indigested Idea's of a severe Revenge, which Time and Thought brought to Maturity. I had several times took notice that the Head Scholar of our School, (a Lad of eighteen Years of Age, whom my Master in his Absence substituted in his Place, and dubb'd him a kind of an Usher, in which Authority he became more imperious than my Master himself, and was the greater Tyrant of the two; and against whom I had an equal Antipathy) had some more than ordinary Familiarity with my Mistress, when my Master was taking his Nipperkin of Ale with his Pot-Companions: (For my Master would take off his Chopin as well as the best of 'em.) And observing that my Mistress being then in her Bloom, and in all the Sprightliness and Gaiety of her youthful Blood, and had marry'd the old Fumbler, my Master, for a Subsistence, more than for Love,

Love, I concluded there must be something more than ordinary in the Obsequiousness of our young Amorous Usher, and the obliging and complaisant Carriage of my Mistress; and therefore I resolv'd to have a watchful Eye upon 'em, and became such a Spy upon their Actions, that by their Glances, Smiles, Winks, and other Symptoms of Love, I cou'd have almost sworn that my Master was a mickle Mon in the Corporation of Cuckolds: So that I began to plot not only how I might raise, but also cure his Jealousy.

And not long after, my Master being at his old Haunt, and so the Stage clear, my Mistress had some sudden Qualm come upon her, which made her go to bed before her usual time; which by the Observation I had made I took to be a plot laid between her and the Usher, to gain the more Freedom for their uninterrupted mutual Enjoyment; which I being resolv'd to be further satisfy'd in, withdrew before she got up to her Chamber, and conceal'd my self in a Corner of it, behind

hind the Hangings, so that I cou'd not possibly be seen, unless felt for on purpose. And soon after comes up my Mistress, who being partly undress'd below, got quickly into Bed, and was no sooner laid down, but some body gave a gentle Tap at the Door, upon which my Mistress gets out of her Bed, and in her Smock admits the amorous Usher, embracing him in her naked Arms, and almost smothering him with Kisses ; which being over, he quickly stript, and got into the Bed, she meeting him half way with open Arms ; and without any Loss of Time, pursu'd their amorous Engagements ; which after having renew'd two or three times, they both fell asleep, as being satiated for that time with their Enjoyments. And now being satisfy'd in all that I desired, I stept from behind my Retiring Place, and was making the best of my way out, but perceiving something over a glimmering Fire in the Chimney, my Curiosity led me to see what it was, and putting my Finger into it, I perceiv'd it was a Glew-Pot, which a Joyner's Boy, who had been mending
the

the Frame of the Looking-Glass belonging to the Chamber that Afternoon, had forgetfully left there ; and finding the Glëw warm and soft, the De'el put it into my Head, to put my Finger in the Glëw, and stroak it over their Eyes, which I did so cautiously, and with such a soft and gentle Touch, that neither of them perceiv'd it. Then taking the Key out of the Door, and locking it on the out-side, I got down Stairs so softly, that I was unperceiv'd by any one. And after I had been below a while, I came into the Kitchen, and asking what a Clock it was, was answer'd, It was past Ten. Then said I, Ise e'en gang to Bed : And so will I too, reply'd the Wench, when I have laid the Key for my Master ; for Ise not stay up for him any longer. And so the Lass going into her Chamber, I went into mine ; but soon return'd softly down Stairs again, to put my design'd Revenge in Execution : In order to which, I put a frightful Vizard on my Face, and a Cap on my Head ; and to shew my Master some Emblem of his Fortune, I got a Pair of Horns on

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that

that had been us'd at our last breaking up, in a sort of an Interlude, upon my Head, and cover'd my own Cloaths with an old Crape Gown of my Master's, and having got some of those Serpents left, which I had made against the last Anniversary of *Goury's* Conspiracy, with a Match ready lighted by me, I went and open'd a Trap-Door, in the Entry, made for the better Convenience of putting Coals into the Cellar. And having thus got all things ready, I waited for his coming with some Impatience: And by and by I heard him feeling for the Key, which he could not readily find, by which I knew he was pretty far gone in Drink; and having laid myself in the Entry in his Way; he quickly stumbled and fell over me, with his Face sownse upon the Ground, and then I immediately fir'd my Serpents, by the Light of which, looking up to see at what he had stumbled, he beheld my horrid Phiz, and taking me for the Devil, cried out with a lamentable Voice, *O help! help! help! The Deel! The Deel! The Deel! The Loon has me in his Grip, the Loon has me in his Grip:*

Grip : And making all the haste he cou'd o'wards the Kitchen, he fell in at the Trap door down into the Cellar, crying out *Ise gone, Ise gone, Ise gone*, whilst I follow'd him to the Trap door, crying out, *I've got thee, I've got thee; and now thou mun gang with me.* Upon his falling into the Cellar, he had a cruel squelsh, which made him roar out horribly. Which hideous Noise awak'd the Servants, who quickly came down to see what the matter was; but before they came down, I had made fast the Trap door again, and was got up to my Chamber just as the Serpent made a Bounce: Which being but one Pair of Stairs, and over the Entry, I cou'd easily hear what pass'd. But my Business was, while they were finding out my Master, to disrobe my self and hide all my Accoutrements; and then hearing the Noise below, I hearken'd to what was said and done; the Issue of which was, that while my Master was crying out sometimes that he was in Hell, and at other times that his Bones were broken, the Servants, directed by the Noise he made, came to him into the

the

the Cellar, and asking him how he came thither, he told them that the Devil came to him, and threw him there, and had almost kill'd him with the Fall: Why, said they, did you fall down Stairs? No, no, said he, the Devil threw me thro' the Trap-door; Upon which they went up and look'd, and found the Trap-door fast shut, and all things well: But when they had given him a Dram of the Bottle, and brought him a little better to himself, he told them, that upon his coming in, a horrible monstrous Devil, vomiting Flames of Fire, seiz'd upon him, and threw him with Violence down into the Cellar, but which way he knew not; and had certainly carry'd me with him, said he, to the Infernal Region, had I not pray'd hard, and cry'd to Heaven for Mercy.

But perceiving that there was only the Servants, and neither my Mistress nor the Usher, I resolv'd they shou'd now come in for a Snack, and therefore getting up near their Apartment with a Candle in my Hand, I set Fire to an old Map of the World, that was
past

pasted upon Canvas, and hung in the
 Passage, and was just got into my Bed
 again, when they had brought up my
 Master out of the Cellar into the
 Kitchen, and the Map blazing out ex-
 tremely, the Servants percev'd it, and
 presently cry'd Fire, Fire, running up
 Stairs to see what it was, and to quench
 it, which was soon done: But upon
 that Noise, the Watchmen knock'd at
 the Door, and I came running out of
 my Chamber as afrighted, and the
 Watchmen were presently let in, not
 so much because the Servants thought
 it was the Devil, as because perhaps
 they thought there might be Thieve
 in the House, who might occasion
 these Disorders.

The Constable and his Watch were
 no sooner enter'd, but my Master be-
 gan to assume a little Courage; tho
 but just before, upon the burning of
 the Map, he fell into a grievous Ago-
 ny, crying out, *O the Deel, the Deel!*
See, see, how his Eyes glare, and burn, just
like a flaming Torch! But now, seeing
 the Authority of the Constable, and
 the Number of the Watchmen, the
 Old

Old Gentleman suppos'd they were strong enough to engage *Beelzebub* himself, shou'd he offer to make any further disturbance. And therefore having now leisure to think, he began to wonder that he had not seen his Wife in all this Noise and Confusion ; and fearing the Devil, at his last appearing, when they cry'd out Fire, might have carry'd her away, and mistaken her for himself, he fell again into a dreadful Agony, lamenting her unhappy Fate, as if he'd seen her in the Devil's Grip : And therefore intreated the Commander of the Night and his Billmen, to go with him to his Wife's Apartment, that he might see what was become of her : To this the Constable agreed, and up they go, tho' my Master was fain to be help'd up, he had so bruise'd himself with his Fall : But when they came to the Chamber Door, and found the Key on the out-side, they wou'd have had my Master to have gone in first, but his Fear had too great an Ascendant over him, and therefore was willing to give them the Honour of the first Entrance, that in case of any
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Danger, he might be down Stairs
first.

By this time the two weary'd Lovers
being newly wak'd out of their Sleep,
began to rub their Eyes, but cou'd not
open 'em, the Glew had join'd them so
close together ; and therefore hearing a
great Noise in the Room, and yet not
seeing any thing, imagin'd it had been
Thieves that were broken in, and come
to kill 'em ; so that they jump't out of
Bed in their Shifts, and running to-
wards the Door, that they might get
away, ran against the Old Gentleman,
my Master, and flung him down, (for
he was hardly able to stand before) and
finding the Passage stopp'd there, ran
about the Room like Persons frighted
out of their Wits ; begging they would
save their Lives, tho' they took all they
had : The old Gentleman being got
up again, and seeing his Wife and his
Usher run naked about the Room, soon
perceiv'd what they had been doing ;
and therefore, unwilling to have her
any more expos'd, order'd one of the
Māids to take her in her Arms, and
carry her to Bed, and cover her. And
she

she hearing her Husband's Voice, was a little better satisfy'd, than when she thought they had been Thieves ; then told her Husband, she knew not what they had done to her, nor how this Scholar came into her Chamber ; for tho' she was well when she went to Bed, she was now blind : And therefore she believ'd she was bewitch'd : The Usher, tho' he cou'd see no more than she, fell down upon his Knees, and begg'd for Mercy and Forgiveness, promising never to be guilty of the like Offence again. My Master, to put the better Gloss upon the matter, told the Constable that he did believe they were all bewitch'd, for the De'il had been very busy that Night : And so dismissing the Watch, and giving them Money to drink, desir'd them to take no notice Abroad of what they had seen at his House. The Watchmen made fair Promises, and told no body but Folks, where ever they came.

The Company being gone, and the Doors made fast, and my Mistress and the Scholar being restored to their Sight, by the Application of warm Milk,

Milk, which, with much washing, rubbing, and Pain, they had unseal'd: My Master said but little that Night, but order'd the poor Ulher to his Bed, and told him he wou'd examine more into the Matter the next Morning; and then leaving his Wife in her own Bed, went into another himself, saying he was not fit, after so much Fatigue as he had suffer'd that Night, to come into her Arms; and indeed any one that had been near enough might have smelt out the matter, for the Old Gentleman, with his Fright and Fall together, had besh—t himself, and was fain to get one of the Maids to make him clean.

The next Morning, my Master, bruis'd as he was, got up betimes, having dream'd of nothing but Horns all Night, and going into my Mistress's Chamber, enquires into the Particulars of the last Night's Work; and tells her that his Ulher had confess'd that he lay with her. She told him, if he did, it was unknown to her, and that she knew no more of his being either in the Chamber, or the Bed, than

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him-

himself did, and she believ'd it was all the Effect of Witchcraft. This being all he cou'd get out of her, he next examines the young Gamester, bidding him, as he hop'd for Pardon, to confess all freely, his Wife having told him, that when he came to Bed to her, she thought it had been only her Husband ; and that he being too strong for her, she cou'd not help what he did. The *Nysee* thinking this to be true, and being vex'd his Mistress shou'd so expose him, fell upon his Knees, and protested his Mistress first tempted him to lie with her, telling him her Husband was an old Fumbling Dotard, and cou'd do nothing ; and that tho' this was the first time they were found out, yet he had lain with her before an hundred times.

This Declaration, tho' he had promis'd Pardon before; enrag'd him to that degree, that before he turn'd him out of Doors, he resolv'd he shou'd have the Courtesy of the House ; and therefore delivering him to the Man and Maid to bind him Hand and Foot, he went up and secur'd his Wife in

her Chamber, and so then effectually
flung'd the young Lecher, that the be-
ing whip'd at the Cart's arse was but a
Flea-biting to it.

And tho' my Mistress was not in a
Capacity to relieve him, yet his mis-
erable Out-cries under his Castigation,
so sensibly afflicted her, that she fell
into a Swoon, and had like to have
dy'd by Sympathy; so that when my
Master came to unlock her Chamber-
door, she lay upon the floor as dead;
and being, with much ado, brought to
Life again, she vow'd she wou'd be re-
veng'd on him for his Barbarity: And
she was as good as her Word, for soon
after she took her Opportunity, in my
Master's Absence, to go away, *Anglice*
Elope, from him and carry'd with her
all his Money, Plate, and the richest
of his Goods; and, as I suppose and
have heard, went after the Usher, to
make him amends for what he suffer'd,
and enjoy their unlawful Loves with
greater Freedom. This Misfortune,
with what had before befallen him,
cast my old Master into a Fever, and
that in a few Days cast him into the

Grave. And there was an end of the Family, and my self fully reveng'd both of my Master and his Usher, without ever being in the least suspected.

*Thus I in Youth with petty Sins begin,
But commit greater when my Hand is in :
Yet this at present is enough to show
Contrivance beyond Strength does often go.
By springing secret Mines, I overthrew
Those by open Force I ne'er cou'd do ;
And tho' I am at present under Age,
Yet I in deeper Crimes shall soon engage.*

CHAP. II.

He returns home to his supposed Father and Mother, falls in love with a Shepherdess, gets her with Child, and by her comes to understand that he was a Foundling; and thereupon robs his Foster-Father, and goes to seek his Fortune.

MY Master's unhappy End, and the Ruin of his Family, gave me many melancholy Thoughts; for tho' my Mistress's living in Adultery with the Usher, was that which undermin'd

min'd their Prosperity, and sapp'd the Foundation of their Happiness, yet it was the working out of my Revenge which discover'd it, and brought it so swiftly upon 'em. I have often wish'd that my Revenge had been less severe; and have as often thought that my Success therein, did but push me on to greater Wickedness.

However it was, after my Master's Death, I return'd back to my suppos'd Fathers, and was very well receiv'd there; where I gave a large Account of the unhappy Catastrophe of my Master's Family, but without letting of 'em know that I had any Hand in it: My Mother now told my Father that I had Learning enough, and that it was high time I was put to work; (for they found I was unfit for the University) I was well enough pleas'd with the first part of her Discourse, for I confess I had no great Inclination to Learning; but I did not approve of the latter part of her Discourse, for I as little lik'd Working, as I did to go to School. And yet rather than go to School any more, I was willing to try what I cou'd

do at it. And so I was put to Plow, being about Fifteen Years of Age : I follow'd that about a Week or Ten Days, and then complain'd it was too hard for me. At which my younger Brother, that was set to keep the Sheep, told me, he wou'd change with me with all his heart, for he had rather go to Plow than keep Sheep : So both of us being agreed, it was order'd so, and I was set to keep the Sheep. This being a lazy kind of Employment, agreed best with my Constitution ; besides, I had another Convenience that render'd it very acceptable to me, for I had an Opportunity of conversing with a fair Shepherdess, one *Jenny Paterson*, with whose incomparable Beauty, young as I was, I was extreamly pleas'd : And she being a Neighbour's Child in an adjacent Village, we generally fed our Flocks together, and by that means had frequent Opportunities of seeing and discoursing with each other. This *Jenny Paterson*, as we were once sitting together by our Flocks of Sheep, ask'd me whose Son I was ; why do you ask
that

that Question said I, when you know my Father? No, but I don't, said she, nor your self neither. I was surpriz'd to hear her say so, and desir'd to know the Reason: If you don't know, said she, I'll tell you: My Mother was last Week at your House; and she, whom you call Mother, told her you were none of her Son, but a Child that her Husband found in the Highway, under a Bush, wrapt up in a very rich Mantle, with a Bundle of Cloaths by you, and therein several Pieces of Gold, and that for the sake of those things, and of the Gold, they brought you home and kept you as their own; and that they did believe you were the Bastard of the Lord of Dondonald's Daughter, because some of that Family had made a sleeveless Errand to their House, to enquire after a Horse, and took great notice of you. Well, said I, if it be so, I am of better Blood than a'l the rest; and I believe it is so, because my Mother was always kinder to her other Children than to me.

From that Day forward, I resolv'd to seek my Fortune with the first convenient Opportunity; but resolv'd not to go away empty-handed; for since my Foster Parents had got so much with me, I resolv'd to take something from them when I went.

But I was grown so passionately in love with my pretty Shepherdess, that I knew not how to live without her; I got nothing, but I gave her some of it, and was always getting something or other, that I might have something to give her: I frequently kiss'd her, and squeez'd her by the Hand, and did all that I cou'd to let her know that I would fain have done something more; but so great was her Innocence, that she did not understand me.

But it so happen'd, that one Day, when we had drove our Sheep to the Side of a Hill, and the Sun shin'd very hot, we sat down under an adjacent Tuft of Trees, and there my pretty Shepherdess fell fast asleep: And as we lay, she look'd so very tempting, I thought I ne'er cou'd have a better Opportunity to taste those unknown Joys
that

that Nature did so much excite me to. And therefore going very softly to her, I gently remov'd those Impediments that hinder'd me; and having all that Paradise of Bliss laid open to my View, it was impossible I should forbear to take that sweet, altho' forbidden Fruit. But e'er I'd got into that Bower of Bliss, my Shepherdess awak'd, and fell a crying; and wou'd have disengag'd herself from my Embraces, but that I was too strong for her. And this was the first time that e'er I tasted the Delights of *Venus*; but I had much ado to make my Shepherdess be reconcil'd to me. I told her it was only my Excess of Love that forc'd me to it; and that I was afraid to ask her, lest she shou'd deny me. But I perceiv'd one reason of her Trouble was, for fear it should come to her Mother's Ear, and therefore I solemnly protested, that if she would admit me freely to do what I did before, her Mother ne'er should know it; but otherwise I would myself discover it. This prov'd a most prevailing Argument, and I obtain'd free Licence to renew those Joys that I before had
tasted

tasted but imperfectly, with much more Pleasure to my self than her. In fine, after those few first Tears were wip'd away, my Shepherdess was as well pleas'd as I, and we oft-times renew'd our Love Enjoyments.

But in a little time my Shepherdess found the sweet Poison she so oft had taken, began to work, and make her Belly swell; and she was very much afraid she cou'd not long prevent her Mother's coming to the Knowledge of it. I gave her all the comfortable Words I cou'd, and told her I'd take care to screen her from her Mother's Eyes, and from her Father's Anger: And the sweet Innocent, believ'd my Words, tho' I ne'er meant one Word of what I said, but thought how I might get away and leave her, before it was found out. And to that End, it happen'd luckily soon after, that there was a great Fair kept at *Skyrassin*, and all our Family was to go thither; but I feigning I was not well, resolv'd to stay at home; which my Step Mother (for so she was to me) was very glad of, both because I shou'd then look to the
House

House; and not put 'em to any Charge at the Fair ; but to encourage me to stay at home the more willingly, she promis'd me to bring me home a Fairing : but what it was, I never staid to know ; For after they were gone, I lock'd the Doors, and ransacking the House, I pull'd the things out of my Mother's Chest, and there I found the Mantle and the Cloaths that *Fenny Patterson* had told me of ; and looking into a little Drawer at the bottom of the Chest, I found Ten Guinea's, which I suppos'd was part of what they had with me, and therefore I look'd upon 'em as my own proper Goods. Some Silver also I found in my Father's Cupboard, where I knew he us'd to put it. And having made up my Pack, and put on my best Cloaths, away I went, directing my Course towards *Edinburgh*, the cheif City of the Kingdom, hoping there to dispose of the things I had got, and so to make my Fortune. I stuff'd my Pockets full of Victuals as I went, because I thought I should get none by the Way, (for I cou'd not eat Stones, and I cou'd see little else) and taking

taking the Key with me, away I went ; but before I went, I took my old Cloaths, Shirt, and Hat, and carry'd them to the Banks of *Lough Assin*, about half a Mile from our House, and in the way that they were to come home, to the End that they being found, I might be thought to be drown'd in that Lake, (into which I flung the Key) and so they should not pursue after me. There was nothing troubled me so much as to leave my pretty Shepherdess behind me, exposed to the Reproach and Anger of her Parents by my means ; but being with Kid, I thought she wou'd hinder me in my Journey, and her Parents cou'd take better care of her than I cou'd.

*Thus, as in Years, in Mischiefs old I grow,
And worse things do, altho' I better know :
An Innocent and Beautiful Young Maid
To Sin and Shame at once by me betray'd :
From those that brought me up, away I run,
When I, what Mischief I cou'd do, had done.*

C H A P. III.

He prosecutes his Journey towards Edinburgh, gives an Account of an Inn he din'd at the second Day of his Journey; how he came to a Barn that Night, and was frighted by a Parcel of Gypsies who wou'd have perswaded him to make one among them, which he refus'd, and why. He buys a Horse, and is robb'd both of his Horse and Money; by what Stratagem he got another Man's Horse, and Money to boot.

HAVING pack'd up my Bundle, I made the best of my way towards Edinburgh, not doubting but I should go near to be two Days March before any that shou'd undertake to pursue me. For as they must of necessity pass by the Lough or Lake on the Banks of which I had plac'd my Old Cloaths, I did not doubt but that wou'd put them into some Consternation; and when they came home, and found the Door lock'd, and yet cou'd find

find no Key, it wou'd be late before they cou'd get in, and see what I had done, that it wou'd amaze them to that degree, that they wou'd not readily know what Course to take, nor what to think was become of me.

As for my self, I put the best Leg forward, and travell'd three or four Miles before I saw either Village or House ; and in all that way met with no body. But at last meeting with a few stragling Houses, I went out of my way on purpose to avoid meeting with any one, because I thought, in case they shou'd pursue me, they wou'd enquire at the first Houses whether they had not seen such a Lad gang by that way, and then being told no, they would bend their Course another way, as believing I had not taken that Road: So that I met with no Person all that Day ; and when Night came, I was forc'd to take up my Lodging under a Hedge, and had no other Canopy but that of Heaven ; and tho' my Lodging was but hard, yet being very weary, for I had travell'd about eighteen Miles, I soon fell fast asleep, and wak'd not till the Morning ; and tho' the

the Darkneſs of the Night, and being in a wide Field without Sight of any Houſes ; at firſt made me wiſh to have been at my Foſter-Father's again, yet the remembrance of the Condition I had left poor *Jenny Paterson* in; and that I knew not how ſoon it might have been found out, and my Villany diſcover'd, I was glad I was ſo far off.

In the Morning I viſited my Pocket, to find how my Victuals held out, and fell heartily to eating what I had ; for tho' I was ſo weary I cou'd eat nothing over Night, yet I had ſo good a Stomach the next Morning, that I made an end of all my Victuals ; making good the Proverb, *Two hungry Meals makes the third a Glutton*. And now having eat up my Victuals, I thought it was time to proceed on my Journey ; and the Days being long and warm, I made the beſt of my way in the Morning. In four or five Hours ganging, I came in ken of a Houſe, and being hungry again with travelling, I made account to have made a good Meal there, and therefore haſten'd to the Houſe as faſt as I cou'd ; and tho' at firſt ken I thought

thought it near, it was two long Hours before I cou'd gang to it. When I came near it, I perceiv'd there was a Sign at it, and coming nearer I found it to be a Woman with a Wisp of Hay between her Legs, and underneath was written, *Here is Meat for Man and Horse*; which I was very glad to see; tho' I then understood not the true Meaning of the Inscription or Explanation of the Figure, which was to tell Passengers, That the Woman was Meat for the Man, as Hay was for the Horse: But I had no occasion for that sort of Meat; but expecting something to fill my Belly, I went in, and ask'd what I cou'd have for Dinner; they told me they had nothing but Eggs; so I was fain to accept, of such as they had; and they were but poor Stuff, for it seems the Fox had kill'd their Hens, so that some of their Eggs were addle, and some were ready to hatch; and that she might not lose her Eggs, she mix'd them with some good ones; but they were but very few: For seeing me a little simple Youth, and one that look'd honestly, she thought any thing
wou'd

wou'd serve me. And coaxing me up, she said, Bonny Lad, from whither art thou gang'd? I told her from *Badenoch*, near to *Loquhabar*. With that she came nearer to me, and stroaking me on the Head, said, Bonny Lad, whither hast thou wander'd, for thou art gang'd far out of the way; I thought so too, in coming to her, for I was afraid I shou'd have been infected with her stinking Breath; her very touching me, I thought had drawn Old Age upon me; and I began to think no worser Evil could befall me, than the meeting with that dirty Slut. I told her I was ganging to the Court at *Edenburgh*, and pray'd her to bring in my Dinner; then she bid me sit down on a lame Bench, and on the top of a little Block, she spread a dirty Dish-clout before me; and for a Salt-sellar set down the Foot of an old broken Pitcher, such as she set full of Water for the Poultry to drink; and then on this little Block thus furnish'd, half a Loaf of Bread, very black and hard; after this Preparation, she brought in upon a Plate a Froize of Eggs; for so she

she call'd it, but it might more properly have been term'd a Plaister of Eggs. But I flood not to examine what they were, being very sharp set, for I was as eager upon it as a Hog upon his Acorns, and so all went down without chewing, tho' I think in my Conscience I felt the tender Bones of the untimely Chickens in the Eggs crackling between my Teeth: I confess this was such Usage as I had not been acquainted with; but as it was the first Essay of my Travels, I took it patiently, and paying my Shot, made all the hast I cou'd away; thinking (notwithstanding what was written under their Sign) it was rather *the Divil's Meat than Man's Meat*: and so I found it sure enough, for I had not gone far, before I brought up all again, and so paid my Money for nothing; save only that I thought I heard the Chickens which I found among the Eggs, cry *Peep, Peep, Peep*, in my Belly.

My Belly being thus empty, and no hopes of better Victuals appearing, I was fain to recruit my self as well as I cou'd with what I found in the Fields;
but

but that was but a sort of raw and indigested Food; but yet it was all I could get, and therefore I made shift with it. That Afternoon I travel'd in much Discontent, for I was troubled I could see neither Towns nor Houses; and the Night beginning again to come on, I was afraid I shou'd perish with Hunger, tho' I had Money enough to buy Victuals, if I could have told where to have got it. At last I came to the Sight of a House, as I thought at least, and with much Pains and Weariness I got to it, and then found to my Sorrow, it was only a Barn; and there being good Straw therein, I went in, and cover'd my self over Head and Ears. I was hardly got to sleep, when I was not only wak'd, but almost frighted out of my Wits with a loud and confused Noise of many Voices together, which drew nearer and nearer to me; and made me remember the dreadful Stories I had heard of Fairies, Hoagoblins, and Robin-good-fellows: This put me into an Ague Fit; and brought all the Villanies I had acted, fresh into my Mind,

as

as thinking I shou'd now be punish'd for them. But I had scarce time to think much before I was surrounded with a pack of Devils in the Shapes of Men, gabbling at a prodigious rate, tho' I was ignorant of what they said, as not understanding one Word: This put me into such a Consternation, that crying out aloud for Mercy, I got up, and ran thro' the midst of them out of the Barn; which they seeing, and knowing nothing of my being there, were as much frightened as I, and fell a running as well as my self. Finding my self pursu'd, and that it was impossible I should escape from 'em, I fell on my Knees, and begg'd they wou'd have pity on me; they thereupon coming up to me, and seeing me a likely Lad, ask'd me who I was, and from whence I came, and whither I was going? I told them from *Inverness*, and that I was going up to *Edinburgh*, where I was to have a Place, but having lost my Way, and not knowing where any House was, I went into that Barn to lie. Thereupon they ask'd me to go back, and told me

me I might lie there if I would, for they wou'd do me no harm; I was glad to hear 'em speak in a Language I understood, and so I went back with them into the Barn, where they were very civil to me, and gave me my Belly full of Victuals, and good Drink too, but I knew not where they got it, for I saw no House near.

The next Morning they urg'd me very much to be one of them; (for they had told me before that they were Gypsies and Fortune-Tellers) and to encourage me they promis'd me divers Advantages; and among others a pretty young Lass of their Company, not exceeding Fourteen Years; which, to speak Truth, made my Mouth water, besides that it put me in mind of my pretty Shepherdess: But I was afraid of my Money, and that they wou'd take away my Mantle, and the other things I was wrapt in, when I was first found, by which I hop'd to hear of my Parents; and so refus'd to join my self with 'em.

And now being so far from Home, that I was out of Fear, I staid at the
next

next Town I came to, and enquiring if there was ever a Horse to be sold there, I soon heard of a good lusty Horse, for which I gave Two Pound Sterling ; and so being well mounted, I thought I shou'd get the easier to *Edinburgh*. But alas ! I was But a young Traveller, and so was the easier impos'd upon ; for the second Day of my Riding, being come beyond *Babgenoth*, I saw a young Woman walking before me, but somewhat lamish, and heard her make a kind of bemoaning her self ; coming up to her, I saw she was very handsome, and being all alone, I had an aking Tooth to be doing with her : I therefore ask'd her how she came to be on the Road in that Condition, so far from any Town ? She told me that she liv'd in a House upon the Road about five Miles off, which she believ'd I had seen as I came along ; and a Party of Soldiers, that had quarter'd at *Blare-Castle*, had rifled her House, and wounded both her Husband and all her Servants, and either kill'd or carry'd away all her Horses ; and that Sir *Patrick Agnew* being
being

being their Colonel, she was going to *Blair* to make her Complaint to him, hoping he wou'd both punish them, and make her Reparation for the Damages she had sustain'd ; the Consideration of her distress'd Condition, together with the Hopes I had of enjoying her Favour, being extraordinary handsome, made me invite her to get up behind me, and I wou'd carry her to *Sir Patrick Agnew's*, which was but a few Miles distant. After some little shew of Coyness in refusing it, I easily prevail'd with her to accept of my Offer ; and so getting up behind me, she went on with her former Discourse, till turning into a Nook of a Bye-Lane, she very nimbly cast a Cord about my Neck, and pull'd the Noose so hard, that jumping off of the Horse, she threw me to the Ground half strangled ; and giving a shrill Cry, two Fellows came immediately out of an adjoining Thicket, and leading my Horse thither, they dragg'd me after them, where, without any Words, they rifled and bound me, taking my Money, Mantle, and all the things I had,

42
had away from me, and mounting her behind one of them on my Horse, away they rid, while the other was gone in a Moment, I knew not whither.

In this Condition I lay till the next Morning, bemoaning my hard Fate, and cursing the time that I bought me a Horse, and that I robb'd my Foster-Father, looking upon it as a just Judgment upon me. At length, by the help of my Teeth, and by much struggling, I got loose, exclaiming upon that Woman who had us'd me so barbarously for my Kindness ; and that brought to my Mind how barbarously I had serv'd pretty *Jane Paterson*.

My next Business was how to repair my Loss, for I had now neither Money nor Money's worth ; and which way to get any I knew not : The only way I cou'd think of, was, if I cou'd so contrive it, to serve others as she had serv'd me. And while I was thus thinking what I shou'd do, (having gotten into the Road again) I saw a Man well mounted, riding after me, when immediately a Crochet came
into

into my Pate, something like what I
 us'd to play among my School-Fellows
 at *Syrassin*, by which I thought I cou'd
 get on Horse-back again; and so ly-
 ing down upon a little rising Bank, I
 laid my Ear to the Ground; and as the
 Horse-man approach'd, I lifted up my
 Hands and Eyes, in token of great Ad-
 miration: Which he seeing, made his
 Horse stand still, and ask'd me what it
 was that I admir'd at? O Sir, said I, I
 hear the most charming Melody that
 ever was in the World; nor do I think
 the like was ever heard before. The
 Gentleman smil'd to hear me say so,
 saying I was beside my self: But I con-
 stantly affirming it with a most seri-
 ous Countenance, clapping my Ear to
 the Ground again, and then lifting up
 my Eyes and Hands towards Heaven,
 as in some ravishing Extacy, he was re-
 solv'd to make his own Ears a Judge of
 the Truth or Falsity of my Report; and
 so alighting from his Horse, gave it me
 to hold, till he had try'd to hear it him-
 self. He was no sooner kneel'd down to
 listen, but I mounted his Horse and rid
 away with it full speed, he running in
 vain

vain after me, and crying to me to stay, till he was out of Breath. But I kept not the Road long, but cross'd the Country, riding I knew not whither, till I believe I had ridden near thirty Miles; and then it being late at Night, I enquir'd at a small Cottage, what the next Town's Name was, and I was told it was *Brechin*, and seven Miles thither; I then ask'd if they had any Accommodations for Man and Horse? They answer'd, If I wou'd turn my Horse in the Orchard there was Grass enough, and they cou'd make shift for a Bed for me. And thereupon I alighted, and staid there that Night; and causing the Portmanteau to be brought into my Chamber, when I open'd it, I found there, in Gold and Silver, 25 *l. Sterling*, with some very good Linnen, a Suit of Wearing Cloaths, and several Papers, by which I knew both where he liv'd, which was at *Leanny*, a Town which I had pass'd thro'; and what his Business was at *Edinburgh*. I was very well satisfy'd in the Trick I had play'd; and therefore after having had a good Supper in that Cottage, tho'

none

none of the cleanliest dress, I went to Bed, and slept heartily; for I did not doubt but I was safe enough, the Man believing I was gone to *Dunkel*, because he saw me ride that way.

*Thus being brought to lide upon my Wire—
I thought my last Attempt a lucky hit;
By which encourag'd, further Tricks I'll try;
Till Fate at last conclude my Destiny.*

CHAP. IV.

He changes his Course, and goes to Aberdeen; he gives an Account of his cleanly Landlady; he robs the Carriers Packs of Five Pounds, and lies with the Servant Maid instead of the Carrier. He comes to Aberdeen, and gives a Relation of a Trick that he was serv'd there

THE next Morning, not altogether out of Fear, I made haste to get away; but being ask'd by my Landlord from what Parts I came, I told him from *Dunkel*, and that I was going North-West; (for I resolv'd now I wou'd not go to *Edinburgh* till I

might be more secure there) and he luckily answer'd, Iſe warrant you're ganging tull *Aberdeen*; and tho' I knew not which way it lay, nor what Buſineſs I had there, I told him I was; and he reply'd, I was in the ready Road; but I had better not gang to *Brechin*; but tho' it was a little mountainous to *Fetticarn*, thence to *Glenbarvy*, and ſo to *Dunotter-Caſtle*. I thank'd my Landlord for his Advice, and ſo made the beſt of my way, and kept off from any Town as much as I cou'd, till Neceſſity urg'd me.

The next Night I lay at a very good Inn, (at leaſt, as I was told, for I did not find it ſo) and was ſo very weary, that I was forc'd to lie down upon a Bed before Supper; and there I heard the Hoſteſs ſay to her Maid, *Meggee*, Go fetch me the Deſh that I ſhut in, and do you Peſe in it, and weſh it very clean, and give your Meſter a Deſh of Broth in it; but be ſure you weſh it weel, for there be ſo many Sluts, that if I ſhou'd dee, and your Meſter ſhou'd marry a Slut, wee's me! what wou'd become of the poor Mon? The Deel rank; e, thought I, if you ben't a Slut there's

there's none in *Scotland*. Supper being ready, I was call'd up, to come in to Supper, which, after what I had heard, I had but little Stomach to; and to make me have a better, just as I came into the Room, my Landlady let a great F——t: Well done, Landlady, said I; I am afraid you ben't well. *Alas aday!* said she, *I am so unweildy, that I know not what to do: I have such Thuds of Wind, and such Blaudes of Dirt comes from me, that wee's me, I am very bad.*

While I was at Supper, the Carriers came into the Inn, and brought with them many Passengers, which had taken up the best Rooms in the Inn, so that I was forc'd to lie in the remotest part of the House, where the Carriers Goods where put, and where the Carriers were sometimes laid; but now they were forc'd to sit up, and let me lie in their Bed; this gave me an Opportunity to look into several of their Packets in the dead time of the Night, and see what they contain'd; by which means I put above five Pounds Sterling in my Pockets, unperceiv'd

by any one; for I remember'd the Proverb, *It's an ill Pack that may not pay the Custom.* And so having got what I cou'd, I went to Bed. But I was no soe-ner laid down, but I heard one come after me, and presently thought that some-body had seen what I had been doing to the Packs; and therefore I lock'd my Door, and drawing my Dirk that I brought from home with me, I resolv'd rather to kill them that dogg'd me, and to gang away early in the Morn, then to be taken for such a Crime in a strange Place; but as the Proverb has it, *I was war frightened* ~~ner I was hurt~~, it falling out better than my Expectation; for one knock'd softly at my Door, crying, in a Womanish Voice, *My Dear, my Dear, open the Door.* I was indeed much surpriz'd to think what it might mean; but since I knew it was a Woman's Voice, I was resolv'd to let her in; and so laying my Dirk under my Pillow, I rose and open'd the Door, and went to Bed again; she following me in her Smock; and lying down by me; I have waited, said she, this Hour for you, ever since I saw you first

first amongst your Packets; How came you in so late to Night? By this I perceiv'd the Lass mistook me for the Carrier that us'd to lie there, with whom she had us'd this Familiarity: And so counterfeiting the Carrier, and telling her my Horses were fallen lame, I gave her what she came for, and serv'd her as I us'd to do *Fenny Paterson*, my pretty Shepherdess. And she seem'd to be very well satisfy'd with my Performance, being very willing to receive what I gave her. But about Five in the Morning she left me, that she might not be discover'd by her Master, for this I found was *Moggee*, whom I lik'd much better than I shou'd have done her Mistress: And soon after I got up my self, and having paid my Shot, left the Inn before the Carrier was got up; and then made what haste I cou'd for *Aberdeen*, where I arriv'd the Evening following. And having got a good Horse, and Thirty Pound Sterling in my Pocket, I esteem'd my self as rich as an Emperor.

Soon after, there being a Fair at *Kinkel*, I dispos'd of my Horse, lest he should

should happen to be challeng'd by the true Owner. And buying a New Suit, I thought my self an absolute Gentleman, spending my Money as lightly as it came.

C H A P. V.

He gives an Account of several Cheats which he committed in Aberdeen; and how he got a Companion, and learn'd from him the Art of Begging and Stealing; and how attempting to steal a Silk Plad, he was taken, put in Prison, and afterwards whipt for the same.

HAVING by an unfortunate Intrigue at Aberdeen utterly spoil'd my New Cloaths, I was oblig'd to diminish my Stock, by purchasing another Suit, which brought my Money to a very low Ebb, so that Poverty was almost ready to stare me in the Face; which put me upon new Contrivances to get more; but how to do it is the Question: Well, our Proverb tells us, *She is a fairy Mouse that bes but one*

ene hole. And I found if I tarry'd for
like an Opportunity as I had before,
I mun e'en starve; and therefore I
saw a necessity for something to be
done, and all Occasions to be laid
hold of. And seeing a Man, who
was going to make some Fire-works,
had his Eyes (by their accidental go-
ing off) a little blasted with Gun-
Powder, and thereupon fancy'd he was
struck blind, fell a raving and stamp-
ing to that degree, that in spite of
the Proverb, there appear'd little dif-
ference between *staring and stark mad*:
I thereupon seeing him in a good
Garb, and believing therefore he car-
ry'd Money in his Breeches, went in
and ask'd him what he ail'd? He told
me his Disaster, and that he was con-
triving for a Dog and a Bell to lead
him about. I told him that I had once
an Acquaintance of mine in the same
Condition; who, notwithstanding all
the Importunities and Persuasions of
his Freinds, could not be prevail'd with
to keep his Eyes shut but for one quar-
ter of an Hour? by which Willfulness
he was utterly depriv'd of his Eye-
sight

fight, which he sadly repented afterwards: And therefore said I, as you value that precious Jewel of your Sight, forbear to handle, or open your Eyes for some short time, and, upon my Word, you will thank me for my Advice, when you have found the Benefit of it: And the Deel a bit of a Lie was it, for setting the Loon up, like an Image against the Wall, with his Hands before him, and diving into his Pockets I took Eighteen Marks Scotch, which was five times as much as an able Doctor wou'd have expected, and so I went my way, leaving my Patient to verify the old Proverb, *None so blind as he that won't see.*

Some time after this, I met with a young Companion, but an older Rogue than my self; and such a one I had wanted a good while, for my ill-gotten Goods did not thrive; it being generally true, That what is got o'er the Deel's Back, is spent under his Womb: And being reduc'd to Beggery, I knew not how to sustain my self; for I made but a very saity Begger; but my new Companion and I became
very

very intimate in a little time; in-
much that we were soon Sworn Bro-
thers: We begg'd together, lay toge-
ther, lous'd together, and were one in
every thing.

It was our Custom, in the Close of
the Evening, to beg at Doors, which,
if we found open; we went in with-
out any Ceremony; and if we found
none in the way, what we laid Hands
on, was our own, for we immediately
rubb'd off with it; but if we saw any-
body, then we shew'd our selves Mem-
bers of the whining Academy, begging
for Heaven sake, to shew their Cha-
rity upon two diseas'd Wretches that
were troubled with the Falling-Sick-
ness: And some where so credulous as
to believe us, and give us Alms; but
others, seeing us a Couple of sturdy
young Lads, threaten'd us with a
Whipping-post; but their Threatnings
could not deter us from filching when
it lay in our way; which was not sel-
dom, for we got more by Stealing
than by Begging: But the Pitcher
ne'er gangs so often to the Well, but
it comes broken home at last: And I

it far'd with me; for as I was going thro' new *Aberdeen*, seeing a Door open, and the Coast clear, I whipt up Stairs, and happily laid my Hands on a very fine Silk Plad; and being over-joy'd with the Goodness of the Prize, I forgot how near I was to the Stair-head, and so made but one Step from the top of the Stairs to the bottom; and made so horrid a Noise in the Fall, that I soon brought the whole House about my Ears; which made my Companion rub off as fast as he cou'd; but poor I was forc'd to abide the Brunt; for having taken me up, and search'd me, tho' they found nothing upon me, yet they finding the Silk Plad upon the Ground by me, were so civil as to provide a Lodging for me in *Aberdeen* Goal; tho' I thought they themselves had done enough to me to satisfy 'em for my Crime, for one kick'd me, and another box'd me, first on one side, and then on the other; and threaten'd to have me hang'd; but there they were mistaken, for I was only severely whipp'd, and then forc'd to lie in Prison for my Fees:
Where

Where I became acquainted with a whole Gang of Rogues, dignify'd and distinguish'd by Files, Lifts, Jilts, Rummers, Heavers, &c. Who seeing how forward I was to be one of them, promis'd me, that if ever we met abroad, they would instruct me in a Trade which would bring me in a Livelyhood; tho' I afterwards found, had I follow'd their Instructions, it would surely have put me out of one.

After I had been long in Prison, and despair'd of ever coming out, my old Come-Rogue sent a Youngster to me, (for he durst not come himself, because the Keepers knew him) who unexpectedly brought me more Money than would discharge my Debts, with Directions where I should come to him, when I was got out. Upon this I joyfully went to the Master-Goaler, telling him, That I had a Freind had sent me some Money, and therefore I desir'd to know what I was indebted to him, and I wou'd pay it, provided I might be discharg'd; to which he readily consented, and was as willing to be rid of me as I was to be gone.

Thus I in Aberdeen still further run
 In wicken Ways, beyond what I had done :
 For as it was an University,
 'Twas fit I there should take my first Degree :
 And commence Graduate in Roguery
 And in the following Chapters you may view,
 How I therein at last a Doctor grew.

CHAP. VI.

He meets with his old Comrade, who encourages him to go on in Thieving. They join with a Parcel of Robbers, and had like to have been taken. His Comrade picks a Man's Pocket, and gives him the Money. His Comrade is seiz'd and carry'd to Prison, but he escapes, and goes to Montross, where he lies with his Landlady and her Daughter unknown to each other. He goes to Aberdeen, and sees his old Companions hang'd.

I Had no sooner got my Heels at Liberty, but I fell a running, as if I had intended to run out of my Wits, and never stopt till I came to the Place to which my Comrade had directed

directed me; where finding of him, you may imagine there was no small Joy at our meeting; and therefore we concluded to booz it rumly all the remainder of that Day, in token of our rejoicing. When we had each of us drank one another's Health in a Choppin of Ale, he recounted to me all his Adventures since my imprisonment, and how successful he had been in them all; and then taking me by the Hand, Come Lad, quo' he, ne'er be disheartned for one ill Bargain; *Bla the Wind never so fast, it will calm at the last; and a xule Feast may be quat at Pasche*: Ise put thee in a way to make amends for thy Whipping.

Encouraged with these Words, I resolv'd to go on with him again, and try what luck I should have, for well I knew the Proverb, *A Scottish Man is wise behind the Hand*; and so as soon as Night approach'd we did several exploits, and came off well; and the Day and Night following, we had the like Success; by which means we got Money enough to new rig us, having first uncas'd, and left the old behind us. F 2 I be.

I begun now to be weary of *Aberdeen*, and had propos'd it to *Charles Mac-Dole* (for that was my Companion's Name) to go into the Low-Lands, and see what Business we cou'd meet with there. But, as ill Luck wou'd have it, I quickly after met with one of my Goal-Bird Companions, who had promis'd me such mighty things in Prison; he was overjoy'd to see me, and especially at such a time when he told me he cou'd serve me; but, said he, I am now going to meet with some, according to Appointment, *who will make us all*; and by my Soul, he had been in the right had he but added, *be hang'd*. And so taking my Comrade and me with him, we went where we found a jolly Company drinking after a strange rate, to the good Success of that Night's Work. In a little time I understood their Meaning; for, said one of the Gang, Come, let us leave off drinking now, for you know we have a weighty Business to go about; no less than a Thousand Pound Sterling ready Gilt, besides Plate and Jewels; and there;

thereupon they fell a plotting how to contrive the Business to the best Advantage. And at last it was agreed upon, that my self and Comrade should be the *Forlorn Hope*, or more properly be made *Perdues*; for our Charge was to get into the House design'd to be robb'd, and hide our selves in some obscure Place, and, at the appointed Hour, let in our Masters.

I was unwilling to be thought faint-hearted, and therefore undertook to be one, tho' at the same time I trembled when I thought of it; which my Comrade perceiving, shook me by the Hand, and bid me be of good Courage, for he wou'd warrant all wou'd be well: Upon which, being confirm'd, away we went.

A little before Night, my Comrade had lodg'd himself in the House, but I knew not where; and resolving not to be behind Hand with him, I got underneath the Stairs, in a Hole descending into the Cellar, as convenient as if it had been made on purpose. There was a Clock in the House, which

which I very watchfully observ'd, but thought the Hours too slowly went away ; at last it struck Twelve, which was the fatal Hour appointed ; and so out I got from my hiding Place, and, going to the Door, met full but with my Comrade, who was as diligent as I to let 'em in ; and we found them as ready to enter as we were to let 'em in. He that brought us among 'em, whose Name was *Mac Duncan*, coming to me, whispers in my Ear, I have done Business to Night already, and putting a Bag of Money into my Hand, Keep this, said he, till we come to our Rendezvous, and give it me then privately ; so leaving us two Centinals at the Door, up Stairs they mounted, whilst I (for I know not what my Comrade did) stood trembling below. They above, had in a trice secur'd all that was in the House, by gagging and binding them ; and just as they were within ken of their Booty, we heard a great Noise in the Street, and seeing several People coming at a distance from us with Bills and Staves, we betook our selves to

to our Heels in time, and got at a good distance unperceiv'd, where we stood to see whither they went, and soon perceiv'd them to go to that House; for, as we afterwards understood, the Gentleman of the House having been that Night at play, and quarrell'd with some other Gentleman, was attended home by several Gentlemen, and guarded by a Constable and his Watch, lest the other with whom he had quarrell'd, should have insulted Him; and, coming to his House, wonder'd to see his Doors open; and hearing a Noise above Stairs, sent up one of the Watchmen to see what was the matter; but on a sudden hearing two or three Pistols go off, my Comrade and I thought it very proper for us to retreat whilst we might, lest we might have been taken for some of the Gang; and so went to our Lodgings, which was quite at the other End of the Town; where they knowing nothing of what had happen'd, we went very soberly to Bed, very glad of the Escape we had made. And seeing my Comrade knew nothing

thing of the Bag of Money I had deliver'd to me, I was resolv'd to conceal it, being willing to be rid of him as soon as I cou'd, remembering the Proverb, *Better be alone, nor in ill Company.*

Next Morning my Comrade wou'd have had me got up, and enquir'd after the Condition of our New Masters; but I, pretending an Indisposition, requested the same thing of him; but advis'd him to be very cautious how he did it: Thereupon he immediately rose, and went into the Town, to the Street where the House was that was design'd to have been robb'd; where there was a vast Concourse of People, and a Man lay dead; and there he heard what I have before related, and also that the Constable and Watch going up, and the Thieves finding themselves in a Pound, fir'd their Pistols, and wounded some, but kill'd none; and that as one was endeavouring to escape, a Watchman, with his Bill knock'd out his Brains, so that he fell down dead: And my Comrade crowding in to see the Man
that

that was kill'd, found it to be *Duncan*, who had given me the Bag of Money; the rest were carry'd to the Toll-Booth, and in a Fair way to be hang'd, as they were all at the next Session. While my Comrade was gone to learn this News, I examin'd my Bag, and found therein 130 Pieces of good broad *Jacobus Gold*, and about 10*l.* Sterling in Silver. I was amaz'd at such a glorious Sight, and had a good mind to resolve to be honest, and so march off before my Companion came back again; but the Desire I had to know what became of our new Masters, and the Remembrance of *Macdole's* former Kindness, deterr'd me from that Resolution. However, getting a Needle and Thread, quilted up the Gold in the Collar of my Coat, against a rainy Day, and had just secur'd it before my Comrade came back.

As soon as he came and told me the sad Tidings, I really lamented *Duncan's* unhappy Fate, and cou'd not but reflect upon the great Contingency of all humane Affairs; and yet cou'd not but entertain some secret Joy

Joy, that by *Duncan's* Death the Gold was honestly my own, without a Rival. However, to appear generous, and a little sincere into the Bargain, I discover'd then to my Comrade, that I had receiv'd a Bag with Ten Pounds Sterling in it from *Duncan* the Night before, as he was going up Stairs, with a Charge I shou'd say nothing of it to any body. But now, said I, that he is dead, we'll e'en share it between us. My Comrade was mightily reviv'd with this Discovery, for before we cou'd not raise Five Shillings *Scotch* between us; and then told me he thought it was the best way to leave *Aberdeen* while we were well; for we were so well known there, that shou'd we be taken for any-thing, we might be hang'd for Company. To this I also agreed, but was willing first to see what became of our New Masters. And to this my Companion consented; we both resolving to live very soberly in the mean time, and to spend but little; for tho' we had Five Pounds Sterling each in our Pockets, yet we remember'd it was better to spaire at the *helm*, nor at the bottom. But

But it being Three Months before the Sessions, tho' we liv'd not very extravagantly, yet our Pockets began to grow low; which my Companion taking notice of, was for doing a little Business while we staid there; for Need gars naked men run, and Sorrow gars Websters spin: And the Truth is, It is ill to bring that out of the Flesh that is bred in the Bone. And so we resolv'd to try what we cou'd do: And ganging along very soberly, we saw a Man receive a good parcel of Money in a Shop, which he put up into a Bag, and then put it in his Pocket. Says my Comrade, Let us follow that Man and make his Money our own. With all my Heart, said I: But who shall pick his Pockets? For that we'll draw Cuts, said he; and if it falls to my turn to dive, you shall hold; but if you dive, I'll hold: We soon agreed, and drawing Cuts, it fell to my turn to hold. So together we went after him; and the Man kept his Hand in his Pocket where his Money was, and in the Marker-place there stood a Mountebank shewing Tricks, which gar'd

gar'd the Man to stay and look on,
with his Hand still in his Pockets;
which my Comrade seeing, stoops and
takes up a straw, and tickles him on the
Ear, which by that means itching, he
pulls his Hand out of his Pocket to
scratch his Ear, and my Companion in
the mean time dives into his Pocket,
and pulls out the Bag, which, I stand-
ing by him, he immediately gives to
me, and I march'd off with it; but
the Country-man finding his Mo-
ney gone, presently catch'd hold of
my Comrade, and challenges him
with it; he denies it; but one, that
it seems took notice of it, told the
Man he saw him run a Straw into his
Ear, and thereupon the Country-man
cry'd out, Then it was that he lost his
Money; for before he kept his Hand
in his Pocket: Upon this the Multi-
tude gather'd about him, and carry'd
him before a Justice, who happen'd
to know him to be an old Offender;
and being search'd, tho' the Country-
man's Bag was not found about him,
yet they found a Piece of Money in
his Pocket, which was part of what

Duncan

Duncan gave me, that was challeng'd by the Justice himself, who had been robb'd the same Night that Duncan told me they had been doing Business. So that his *Mittimus* was immediately made, and he sent to Goal to tell our new Masters how we escap'd before. I thought now it was high time for me to make the best of my way; for whether he had told 'em I had the Money, or whether he had been seen to give it me, I know not; but my Landlady's Maid, who had a Kindness for me, I having been kind to her in more Respects than one, gave me notice that their House had been search'd for me; and therefore desir'd me not to come home. But she might have sav'd herself that Labour; for when I heard they had been there to see for me, I resolv'd not to stay another Night in that Town, but to take care of myself, let the others be hang'd if they wou'd; and therefore, without taking my leave of any one, I went that Night to *Drum*, and pursu'd my Journey the next Day, not thinking myself safe till I was got as

far as *Montross*, which was above forty Miles distance.

When I came to *Montross*, I went into one of the best Inns in the Town, and the next Day sent for a Taylor, and put myself into a genteel Highland Garb, which made me look of quite another Figure than what I did before; giving out that I came from *Skyrassin*, for I had been now five Years from thence, and did not fear being known in *Montross*. Here I stay'd near three Months, and lik'd my Lodgings very well; for my Landlady was a Widow, and one that was bonny and blithe enough, and she had a Daughter that none in the Town cou'd equal for her Beauty. Indeed the Mother was very handsom; and I lik'd 'em both very well; and they had both a Kindness for me, the difference being only this that I courted the Daughter, and the Mother courted me. I had been, with many fair Words, and some Gifts besides, so successful in my Courtship to the Daughter, that I had obtain'd a Promise from her to lig by her Side; and the Time

Time being appointed, the Door was to be left shut to, which I was to open, and come to her Bed-side without asking any Questions; but being in the Dark, I mistook the Door, and went into the Mother's Chamber; and going directly to the Bed-side, which, tho I had no Light, I readily found, and taking her by the Hand, said I, my bonny Lass, I am come to lig by thee. With that my Landlady, who knew my Voice, said, why, how now, *Donald*, are you come to surprize me? You should have given me a little more notice and I wou'd have been readier to receive you. You can hardly think how much I was confounded when I found I was mistaken.* But I had said so much, there was no going back. And therefore offering to go into Bed to her, hold, said she, I never yet gave you this Freedom; and why you shou'd come without giving me some notice, I understand not. I was glad to hear her thus capitulate, and therefore design'd to make that an Excuse to withdraw: And so began to excuse

myself: I'm sorry said I, that what
I intended well, and thought wou'd
surprizingly please you, shou'd give
you an Offence: But since it is so, I'll
return to my own Bed again; for
when our Flames burn not with e-
qual Ardour, Enjoyment will be but
a languid thing. With that she clasp'd
me in her Arms, and pull'd me into
Bed to her: To let you see, quo' she,
my dearest *Donald*, how tenderly I love
you; I will accept your Visit, and let
your Joys anticipate those Nuptial
Rites that shou'd have been before
'em; and do not doubt but you'll per-
form 'em afterwards. Nay, if you
doubt my Faith, said I, let us post-
pone our Joys till that be done: And
thereupon again attempted to get
from her; but 'twas in vain, she stuck
to me like Bird-lime, and wou'd not
let me go. No, no, said she, I've no
Distrust of you; and therefore tell you,
I am at your Devotion, to do what
you please with me; and therewithal
took me about the Neck and kiss'd
me. I found I had now no way left,
but to take up with the Mother in-
stead

stead of the Daughter: And thereupon I answer'd her Desires to so much satisfaction, that she express'd herself extremely pleas'd, and was loth to part with me. But I told her I had left my Chamber-door open, and I knew not what Damage that might be to me. But now that I was certain of a good Reception, I shou'd visit her often: With which Excuse, and the renewing of our mutual Embraces once more, I left her to her Repose, but not without a Ring, which she presented me with for my good Service, with such Embraces and Kisses as shew'd how dear I was to her.

Having come off well in this Engagement with the Mother, I was now extremely concern'd how I shou'd come off with the Daughter. And, come what wou'd, I resolv'd to meet her late (or rather early) than not at all. For I found myself well enough provided, to pay a Bill upon Sight still; not being able to bear the Thought of letting her languish any longer under a Disappointment.

So that having left the Mother in a sound Sleep, I went strait to the Daughter, whom I found awake; Upon my coming near the Bed-side, she began to upbraid me with my Breach of Promise, and being false to her: for she said she heard me go by her Door to somebody else two Hours before, and that I came back but half an Hour ago. This made me think she had known what past between her Mother and I: But I had a Lie ready at Hand, and so told her she was somewhat mistaken; for tho' she might have heard somebody go along the Gallery, yet it was not myself, but her Mother, who came to my Chamber to talk with me, complaining that she cou'd not sleep; and I thought, said I, she wou'd never have gone again, tho' I told her she'd catch cold, and advis'd her by all means to go back to her Bed: And with much ado I got rid of her: But being jealous least she might return, I went to her Chamber to hear how things went; and by her snoaring, find she is fast asleep. So that now, my Dear
the

the Coast is clear for you and I: She was very well satisfy'd with my Excuse; and thereupon admitted me into her Bed first; and afterwards, upon a little Parley, gave way to a closer Intimacy; and suffer'd me to enter into the Bower of Bliss; which I found by the difficulty of the Passage, had admitted of no Visitants before: With which I was extremely pleas'd, as well, because she was incapable of judging of my Performance, as that I meant to inclose her for my own: And, notwithstanding the Engagement I had had with the Mother, I renew'd my Assault upon the Daughter with such Effect, that I had the satisfaction of her confessing to me, that the Pleasure I had given her, had so much oblig'd her, that herself, and all she had, was entirely at my Service. But by this Time the dawning of the Morning beginning to appear, we parted by Consent, with faithful Promises of an entire Affection for each other.

Having thus pleas'd both the Mother and Daughter, I went to my own

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D 4 Bed,

Bed, and there lay till I was call'd up to Dinner: Where they both blush'd for a Reason they both knew, and yet thought each other ignorant of, both privately thanking me for my good Company that Night; and I returning reciprocal Thanks to both; which afterwards I each other Night enjoy'd with both with so much Privacy, that the one knew not what the other did; and tho' both were very kind to me, yet the one knew not the Reason of the other's Kindness.

While I thus liv'd at Rack and Manger, between the Mother and the Daughter, a Gentleman that came to lodge one Night in the Inn in his way to *Edinburgh*, told us, while we were at Supper, that he had been at *Aberdeen*, where the Sessions had newly been held for the trying of Criminals; at which several Robbers had been condemn'd to die for breaking open and robbing a House, but before they cou'd carry off their Prize, they were taken by the Master of the House's coming home late, having been that Night a Gaming; and happening

pening to quarrel with the Gentleman whose Money he had won, the Watch came home to guard him very seasonably to take the Rogues, who were in the height of their Business; and by that means sav'd above a Thousand Pounds. I was too sensibly concern'd in that Business, not to know they were my Companions: And hearing, by the Gentleman, that they were not to die till the Week following, I resolv'd to take my last farewell of 'em, and see 'em fairly turn'd off. To which end I lay with my Landlady the Night following; and after I had done what she expected, I told her I had earnest Business at *Badgenoth*, where I had occasion to tarry two or three Days, and therefore desir'd her to lend me a good Horse for that Time. She was very willing to oblige me, but wou'd have had me marry'd her first: But I told her I cou'd not stay so long, but wou'd be sure to do it when I came back, which, at the farthest, wou'd be next Week. And telling her how great a Detriment it wou'd be to me to defer my Journey a Day longer,

she was willing I shou'd go the next Morning. After which I was forc'd to make a Visit to the Daughter, my dear *Douglass*, for so was her Christian Name; and telling her of my Journey, she was all in Tears, so that I was troubled with too much Love. However, to pacify her, I swore to her in a most solemn manner, that I wou'd marry her as soon as I came back; but I charg'd her not to say a Word of it to her Mother.

So the next Morning, being every way well accouter'd, I took my Leave both of Mother and Daughter, (the latter having much ado to forbear crying at parting) and so instead of going to *Badgenoth*, I went directly for *Aberdee*, having a very good Gelding under me, and happen'd to come there the very Night before Execution day: I lay in that part of the Town where I was least known, and so got up the next Morning and mounted on Horseback to see the Prisoners go to Execution; and among 'em poor *Charles Macdole* my old Companion: Which affected me so much, that I wou'd have
given

given all I was worth to save his Life; but, at the same time, I had the Wit to consider, that to go about to save him, wou'd be to hang myself: But I lov'd myself better than so, and therefore was resolv'd to see him go first. They were hang'd one after another, and our seven new Masters being first ty'd up from their Victuals, *Macdole* happen'd to be the last; when he was mounted the Ladder, the Parson bid him greet for his Sins, and make a fair Confession; which he did, and truly I believe a true one; for he told 'em he had a Companion, whose Name was *Donald Macdonald*, with whom he had done many wicked Exploits; and describ'd me so well, that if I had not been much altered, as well in Person as Name (which I chang'd to *Macduff*) I had been in Danger of being taken. Then, after much greeting, they soon turn'd him off, putting him out of his Pain, and me out of mine; for then I was sure he cou'd tell no more Tales.

Old Friends must part, how dear so'er they be,
 When once the Rope concludes their Destiny :
 But tho' Macdole be gone, 'tis no great Loss,
 Since I two better Friends found at Montros.
 But you must think I had enough to do,
 To please the Mother and the Daughter too.

C H A P. VII.

He leaves Aberdeen and goes to Brechin ;
 and from thence sends for his Landlady's
 Daughter to come to him, with a Pro-
 mise to marry her : She comes, and
 while she goes to buy some things, in or-
 der to her Wedding, he is sent for by a
 Gentlewoman to speak with him, who
 proves to be his pretty Shepherdess : He
 thereupon leaves the other, goes out of
 Town with the Shepherdess, and mar-
 ries her. She relates the History of her
 Travels.

THE fatal Exit of Macdole and
 his Companions, made me un-
 willing to lie one Night more in Aber-
 deen; and so crossing the River Kinder,
 I went to Monymusk, and so to Ba-
 mach

mach, and from thence to *Lumsfan*; and so directed my Course for *Brechin*; which is a fair and large Town, and was anciently an Episcopal Seat. There I consider'd what I had best to do; for tho' I was young, lusty and strong, yet the doing of double Duty was too much for me; and besides, methought to have to do both with Mother and Daughter, was unnatural: I must own I had a real Love for the Daughter, who deserv'd it from me, being very handsome, of a good Understanding, and withal very modest, and of an obliging Nature; but her Mother was a lustful Beast, and one, that after the first Transports of that eager Passion was over, grew nauseous to me; yet I was forc'd to gratify her for my own Interest. Therefore what I had now to consult, was, whether I shou'd go back to *Montrose*, or make the best of my way for *Edinburgh*, and see what was to be done there. By that means I shou'd be absolutely rid of the Mother, but I was loth to forsake my pretty *Douglas*, as knowing what solemn Oaths I had sworn

sworn

sworn to marry her ; and how it was upon that score she yielded up her Virgin Treasure to me: Besides, if I marry'd her, her Portion was 100 l. Sterling, which her Mother cou'd not hinder her of ; and that I thought wou'd be a great Convenience to me, whatever should happen. So that upon the whole Matter, I resolv'd for once to be honest, and make good my Word to her, that her Reproach might be taken away, and my Drudgery with her Mother be at an end.

In order to this, I writ a Letter to her, desiring her to come to me, and we wou'd consummate our Nuptials there ; which she answer'd by the same Messenger, telling me I might expect her there the next Day without fail. I was well pleas'd with her Answer, and was now fully resolv'd to fulfil my Promise, by marrying her, and living honestly with her. For tho' I had had such Familiarity with her Mother, I did not believe she wou'd declare it herself. And I thought her displeasure shou'd wear off in a little time, when she found there was no Remedy.

The

The next Day my *Douglas* came, according to her Promise; I was very glad to see her, and told her I was now resolv'd to make good my Word, and marry her; that so I might be out of Danger of her Mother's Courtship, who continually sollicitated me to the same purpose.

I am sorry, said she, my Mother should become my Rival; but am glad I have got the Advantage of her; and considering what has past between us, you show yourself an honest Man; and I shall endeavour to oblige you for it: And thereupon gave me some Pieces of Gold, which she had kept a long time by her.

She then told me she wou'd go to her Cousin's, where she intended to lodge this Night, and get her to go with her to buy her some things, for she intended to tell her she was to be marry'd to morrow, with her Mother's Consent: And desir'd me to come thither to her in the Evening, she showing me the House before we parted, which I promis'd her I wou'd be sure to do.

I had

I had scarce parted from her, but a young Lad belonging to a stately Mansion-House comes to me, and tells me a Gentlewoman at their House desir'd to speak with me. With me ! said I, somewhat surpriz'd ; yes, Sir, said he, I'm sure 'tis with you ; for she pointed to you as I went along : So I made no more Words, but went with him, thinking it might have been *Dowglas's* Mother who had follow'd her : But I soon found I was mistaken. It was a Gentlewoman whom I knew not, in a very good Garb, and of an extraordinary Beauty ; that, at the first Sight of her, I thought I saw something so extraordinary charming, that I never saw a Face before that pleas'd me half so much ; but cou'd not imagine what Business she shou'd have with me. At my coming in, says the Lad, the Gentleman's here, Madam. Well, said she, go your ways down then ; which he immediately did. Then addressing herself to me : Mr. *Macdonald*, said she, how have you done this great while ? I remember'd I had heard that Voice before,

fore, but cou'd not for my Life tell whose it was; so that I knew not what to answer. Do you not know me, Sir, said she? No, Madam, said I, not at all. Ah false young Man! reply'd the Gentlewoman, I wish you never had; I might have then been innocent and happy: But you betray'd me first to your Embraces, and then basely left me—— I was still ignorant who this shou'd be, nor cou'd I for my Life imagine it. Pray, Madam, said I, let me know your Name—— Have you forgot me then, said she, already? This is an Aggravation of your Crime; especially to me, who can never forget you while I live. But since it is so, farewell thou false and faithless Man; go perish in thy Ignorance for ever—— and therewithal was leaving of the Room. But I took hold of her, and held her fast, begging upon my Knees she wou'd discover to me who she was. Well then, said she, since you won't otherwise be satisfy'd, I am the Person whom you once styl'd your pretty Shepherdess—— O Heavens! said I,

can this be *Jenny Patterson*? I am the very same, said she, all but the Burden you left me with——At which I was in such a mighty Transport, I hugg'd her till I had almost stop't her Breath; and kiss'd her with that mighty Eagerness, that I cou'd have dwelt upon her Lips for ever. At which I saw she was not much displeas'd. But when these Transports were a little over, and I'd recover'd Breath enough to speak: How, in the Name of Wonder came you hither, and thus transform'd, said I, from a poor pretty Shepherdess into a Lady of consummate Beauty? That will be now, said she, too long to tell you. But pray let me ask you one Question first, said she. A thousand, Madam, if you will, said I. Are you a single Man, said she, or marry'd? Not marry'd yet, said I, I thank my happy Stars; altho' upon the very brink of it. At this she chang'd her Countenance, and ask'd me how I meant upon the brink of it? Why, to be plain with you, said I, I came unto this Town, but Yesterday, but have been
been

been near this three Months at *Montross*, where I was courted by my Landlady, who is a Widow, and to whom I carry'd it fair, but was in the mean time courting her Daughter; and the Mother being very urgent with me to marry her, I desir'd her to delay it till I came to Town again; for I have been this Week at *Aberdeen*, from whence I came back but Yesterday, and sent a Messenger to the Daughter to meet me here to Day, that I might marry her to morrow: And she is accordingly come, and is just gone to a Kinswoman of hers in this Street, to get things ready in order to be marry'd to morrow Morning. And do you intend to be marry'd to her to morrow Morning, said she? No, said I, not now I have met with you; if you are willing I should make good my Promise unto you. At which Words she began to smile again: *Donald*, said she, for so you know I us'd to call you, when we kept Sheep together; when I first granted you that Favour, which I never did, nor never will grant to another while you are

are alive, you promis'd solemnly you'd marry me. And tho' I do perceive you have been very near breaking your Word, you say you have not done it yet; and 'tis within your Power still to perform what you have promis'd me; and as I do believe I am the first to whom you ever made that Promise, it makes all other Promises, to whomsoever made, to become void and null. And therefore since your'e like to be beset by your expecting Bride while you stay here, it will be your best way to go from hence with all the best speed you can.

I cou'd not well tell what to think of this Proposal; for altho' she was much more fair and charming than the other, (for *Douglas* was but a meer Doud, compar'd to *Fenny Paterson*) yet how her Circumstances lay I knew not. And therefore I reply'd, I can't do that immediately, for I have got a Horse here that's my Landlady's, and I must take care first to send home that, and then provide another that can carry double.

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No, no, says she, you need not provide any thing; let me alone to provide Horses both for myself and you. Do you resolve to go with me, and all shall soon be ready. Besides too, while your Horse stands there, she'll think you're still in Town, and will be willing for a time to wait, to see or hear what is become of you. And if you have left any thing behind you, take you no care, it shall be all made up to you: And so she left me to get things ready.

I was extremely pleas'd to hear her speak after this comfortable rate. And thereupon casting off all further Care of *Dowglas*, I resolv'd to be honest to *Fenny*, who was my first Love, and who had my Maidenhead, as I had hers. And tho' I believe I had *Dowglas's* too, yet to be honest to both, was to be honest to neither; and therefore since I had promis'd *Fenny* first, and I now must marry one, I resolv'd to marry her. I confess I was a little troubled to think how *Dowglas* wou'd be disappointed; but as I did not at first intend it, so there was no avoid.

avoiding on't: Besides, by this means I should be quite clear from her Mother, to all Intents and Purposes; which, for ought I know, might be no small Deliverance; for nothing's more implacable than a disappointed Widow. But I had not much time for these considerations, for Mrs. *Jenny* soon after returning again, told me she had given Order for the Horses, and all things wou'd be ready immediately; having herself put on a Riding Suit, ready for our Journey. By and bye comes in several Servants, bringing in a very noble Collation, and the Cloth being immediately laid, she ask'd me to take part of a small Refreshment before we went, which I accepted; she desiring me to take no notice to any one there but that I was already her Husband.

Soon after there came two Gentlewomen into the Room, and told me I was very welcome, and that Madam *Macdonald* had given many a long Look for me; I told 'em that tho' I had not been a long time with her, yet I was not unmindful of her. We had

had scarce made an end of eating, before a Servant came in, and told me the Horses were ready. And thereupon we immediately took Horse, and left *Brechin*, riding to *Panmore*, and so to *Badgenoth*, to which (tho' we had but lonesome travelling over the Mountains) we arriv'd the next Day : But that Night we took up our Lodging at *Panmore*, and had but a very indifferent House for our Quarters ; and there, perceiving she had gone by the Name of *Macdonald*, as being my Wife, so I did not Question but we shou'd have lain together that Night ; but she absolutely refus'd it ; and gave me such reason for her Denial, that I acquiesc'd therein, and thought myself exceeding happy, in being like to have such a charmingly beautiful, and yet vertuous Wife.

The next Day we came to *Badgenoth*, where we likewise lay apart the first Night, and the next Morning, accompany'd by our Host and Hostess, we were marry'd ; and were had to Bed that Night with all the Formalities usual in such Cases : And then I found

found her a very agreeable Bedfellow, and one that merited a better Husband.

After we had perform'd those Conjugal Rites which I wou'd have done two Nights before, I had a mind to know how Matters stood with her; and how she came to be transform'd, or rather metamorphos'd, from an ignorant Country Shepherdess, to one that was in every Respect, both as to Garb and Manners an accomplish'd Gentlewoman. And therefore, after having given her two or three Kisses; my dear pretty Shepherdess, said I, you see I have answer'd your Desire and marry'd you by an implicit Faith; that is, without asking you Questions; and now, pray let me know the History of your Life, since I left you at *Ardnaglass*; and how you came to be so altered from what you were then.

Upon this, my Wife (for so she now was) return'd me this answer: My Dear, since you have taken away my Reproach by marrying me, that I can no longer lie under the Impuration of being what I always hated to be, a Whore,

Whore, I will deny you no satisfaction that I am able to give you: And therefore as to what you have demanded, take the following Account.

I think it was upon the Fair-Day at *Skyrassin*, that you left your Foster-Father's House, in such a manner that none cou'd tell what became of you. As they came home by the Banks of *Lough Assin*, they found your old Cloaths, Shirt, and Hat, which put 'em all into a great Fright; they call'd for you, but cou'd make none hear: And so concluded you were drown'd as you attempted to swim. So taking your Cloaths, they felt in your Pockets for the Key of the House, but cou'd never find it, neither there, nor any where. At last they went home, believing you had left it in the Door: But not finding it there, and having look'd all about for it, to no purpose, they at length broke open the Door; and then to their great Surprize, they found their House rifled, some Money scatter'd upon the Ground, and some Gold, and those

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rich Mantles which they found with you, carry'd all away ; which at first they thought had been done by you : but, about three Months after, were convinc'd to the contrary. But at first they exclaim'd against you as a false Loon, and one that had undone 'em. The next Day after, I came to hear all this, and was even ready to die with Grief : When I thought you were drown'd, I was even ready to drown myself to bear you Company ; but when I thought you had gone away and left me behind you, I was like one drown'd in Tears, and had made myself sick with crying incessantly. My Mother ask'd for what reason I griev'd so ? I told her very innocently, for your ? Death. Why, said she, what if *Donald* be dead, what hurt is that to you ? O, said I, foolishly and passionately, then I'm ruin'd and undone. My Mother presently took hold of these Words, which I wou'd have recall'd, but cou'd not. How, said she, ruin'd, and undone ! Why, what has he done to you ? Nothing, said I. Nothing said she ! Why then are you ruin'd

ruin'd and undone? And while I knew not what to answer, she came to me, and took up my Coats, and felt upon my Womb: Out upon ye, for a Whore, said she; why, you have let him get you with Bern. I made her no Answer, but fell a crying: And she stamp'd, and rav'd, and call'd me a thousand impudent Whores; asking me where, and when, and how this came about. I told her the Truth, and that enrag'd her more, and made her call you as many Loons and Rogues, as she call'd me Whores: And, in the midst of all this Rage and Passion, came in my Father, who not knowing the Reason, took my part; but when she had told him the Cause, he was like a Man distracted, and ready to knock me on the Head, beating me with a Holly Wand upon my Shoulders to that degree, that I thought he wou'd have kill'd me; and for ought I know, had if my Mother had not prevented him, and took me away out of his Sight. But though he did not kill me, he had so bruise'd me, that I cou'd not stir out of my Bed

for many Days; all which time I liv'd a wretched and miserable Life, both with my Father and my Mother; which made me resolve to seek my Fortune in some other Country, and stay with them no longer, who were so inhumane to me, for that which was not so much my Fault as thine, my dearest *Donald*. Cou'd I have thought, said I, they wou'd have been so barbarous, I wou'd have took thee with me, tho' I had begg'd my Bread with thee — But pray, proceed.

It was two Months before I got tolerable well, so as to be able to go abroad: And tho' I was never beat by 'em afterwards, yet I was baited continually. In this while, a parcel of Robbers set upon some Gentlemen near *Fern*, who liv'd at *Colmaly*, and your Father, being not then far off, rid up to 'em and assisted 'em against the Robbers whom they pursu'd to some Mountains not far from *Esbrew*, and there took them, and several others, in a Cave, where there was abundance of things which they had stolen; all which, with the Persons, were

were carry'd to *Balnogwy* Castle, and among them were the rich Mantles which they took from your Foster-Father's that Day that you went away; and several other things; which made every body think they were those that had rifled your Foster-Father's House, and had kill'd you. The news whereof renew'd my Grief: For I was now quite cut of Hopes of ever seeing you more. However, when they came to die (for they were all hang'd) they affirm'd they never robb'd any House at *Ardnaglass*, but that they had those things from a young Man between *Badgenoth*, and *Lughe Lech*, whom they robb'd, and left bound in a Wood.

But however it was, I was resolv'd to leave my Father and Mother, and see whether I cou'd meet with any better Treatment abroad; for I was sure I cou'd not meet with worse then I had at home. And so, about Ten Weeks after you had been gone, I got up betimes in the Morning, and made the best of my way over the desolate Mountains, I knew not whither myself, having no Food but what

I brought along with me; and indeed a very little serv'd me. I met very few in my Travel, and I was so much the better pleas'd, for I was afraid of meeting anybody, lest they should either kill me, or otherwise abuse me. At length I came within Sight of a Town, but the Name of it I knew not; tho' I afterwards understood it was call'd *Dingwel*: And having got a little Money, I enquir'd where they sold any Ale, and thither I went, and sat me down, and call'd for a Choppin of Ale; and there considering the desolate Condition I was in, I fell a crying; the People of the House ask'd me the Reason; I told 'em I had marry'd a Husband against my Freinds Consent, and he had gone away and left me. They all pity'd me, and ask'd me if I wou'd go to Service? I told 'em I wou'd do any-thing rather than wander up and down as I did; so they told me they'd hear out for a Place for me, and I shou'd tarry there in the mean time; and so they set me to do some Business, which they seem'd to be very well satisfy'd with. And
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in two days time I got a Place, whither I went, and pleas'd 'em very well : I had not been there above a Fortnight, but a Gentlewoman, who was related to the Family, came thither from *Inverness*, who was very much taken with me, and shew'd me a great deal of Respect ; and I was also extraordinary obliging to her. She ask'd me one Day from whence I came, and how long I had been there ? For she believ'd, she said, I had never been brought up to be a Servant : I told her I came from *Skyrassin*, and that I had always liv'd with my Father and Mother, till I unhappily marry'd against their Consent, and so I came away from 'em, by reason of the miserable Life I liv'd with 'em upon that account. She then enquir'd of me where my Husband was ? I told her, exactly the Truth of your going away and leaving me ; and how doubtful I was whether you were dead or alive. Said she, You are not with Bern, are you ? I then fell a crying, and told her that was my great Unhappiness. Well, said she, there's a

Providence in all this ; if you'll follow my Advice, I'll put you into a way that shall make you happy as long as you live. I gave her many Thanks; and told her she shou'd command me in what she pleas'd ; for I had that Confidence in her, that she wou'd not advise me to any thing that was dishonest ; for I wou'd rather die than do a dishonest thing, to whatever Necessity I was reduc'd. She told me she was very glad I was in that Mind; And therefore, said she, I'll tell you what the Business is, which you must be sure to keep as a Secret, whether you accept it or not. I faithfully promis'd her I wou'd. Whereupon she told me, that the Husband of a Gentlewoman of her Acquaintance was possess'd of a good Estate, a good Part of which wou'd be lost to the Family upon his Decease, for want of an Heir ; at the same time telling me, that if I wou'd be rul'd by her, I shou'd not only be provided for as long as I liv'd, but my Child shou'd become the Heir of a plentiful Estate. With many Thanks, I told her the

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Proposal was too much for my Advantage, and especially for my Child's, to be refus'd: And therefore I should entirely give up myself to her Conduct, and be directed by her therein. The Gentlewoman was very well pleas'd with my Answer, which she further testify'd, by giving me a Guinea. I then told her, that I must leave it to her to get my present Mistress to be willing to part with me. As to that, said she, I know your Mistress so well, that I can do any thing with her, and therefore leave that entirely to me. And she so effectually prevail'd with my Mistress, that my Mistress told me the next Day, that her Kinswoman had a great mind to have me wait upon her; and she knowing it wou'd be more for my Advantage, I was willing upon that account to part with me. I gave her many thanks for her Kindness. And the Gentlewoman hiring a Horse for me, away I went with her to *Inverness*; where I was put into a very genteel Garb, and went with her to the Lady

When I came thither, my Conductress went into a withdrawing Room, with the Lady, and having discours'd with her about half an hour, they both came out to me; and the Lady looking very earnestly upon me, ask'd me how long I had to reckon. I told her Ladyship I was but a young Reckoner, this being my first; but according to the best Computation I cou'd make, I had four Months to reckon: That's very well, said she, and will suit with the Time I have spoke of. And this Gentlewoman tells me you are willing to part with the Child you go with, to me, without ever owning him again. Yes, Madam, said I: And thereupon she put 20 Guinea's into my Hand, and told me she'd be a Friend to me as long as I liv'd: And added, that I should receive Directions from her, from time to time, how to order myself.

This Gentlewoman I then understood was a Midwife, at whose House I was to lodge privately; and the Lady having before given out she was with Child, her Belly was made to grow
big.

big, in proportion to mine; for as mine encreas'd naturally, so hers did the like by artificial Means. The Husband in the meantime being overjoy'd with the Hopes of having an Heir to his Estate.

For four Months, which was the time I had to reckon, I kept me pretty much in private, but had all the Attendance, and every thing else I desir'd; having nothing to do but to learn all that Carriage and Breeding which was necessary for a young Gentlewoman; having the Midwife's Daughter for my Tutorefs, who cou'd do all manner of Work that cou'd be learnt, and play excellent well on the Musick, which I learnt of her.

And now the time of my Delivery being come, the Lady had immediate Notice of it by the Midwife, and accordingly put herself into such a Condition; and I being deliver'd by her Daughter, which was also her Deputy, she presently wrapp'd up my Child, and carry'd it privately to her Mother, who putting it with the same Privacy into the Bed, caus'd the Lady

to counterfeit those strong Cries and Throes which usually are at the Fore-runners of a Child's Birth, and then it was taken again from her, and was so well manag'd, there was no Mistrust, and it being a brave Boy, created no small Joy to the Husband, and as much Grief to the Brother; who was inwardly vex'd to find the Means he had us'd to procure Barrenness, succeeded no better. So that in Three Months after, finding all Hopes of enjoying the Estate was gone, he took Shipping for *Holland*, and from thence went into *Italy* to travel.

For my own Part, I was so well loo'd after, that I wanted for nothing; and in a Months Time I went to wait upon the Lady, who receiv'd me very tenderly, embracing me in her Arms, and telling me she was glad that ever she saw me; that she shou'd always treat me with the same Affection and Regard, as if I was her own Sister. And then shew'd me her Child, which was a brave Boy indeed, and very richly dress'd. I took it in my Arms and kiss'd and gave it to the Nurse

Nurse again; with an *English* Crown Piece. The Lady, while the Nurse was there, call'd me Niece; which was the Reason I gave the Nurse a Crown. For the Lady had told me, that she had a Sister that had a Daughter that had been at *Edinburgh*, and dy'd there, which none of her Relations had seen since she was a Child, and she wou'd so order the matter, that I shou'd pass for her; since if her Sister own'd me, none cou'd know any-thing to the contrary. And therefore I was order'd by her to go to her with a Letter, and I did so accordingly; for she owns me for her Daughter, and the Lady for her Niece. This adopted Mother of mine is the Gentlewoman that lives at *Brechin* where you found me; or rather where I found you, and prevented you from marrying an Inn-keeper's Daughter. And ever since, I have been sometimes at *Brechin*, and sometimes at *Inverness*; at both which Places I am still at home.

My Mother (for so I call Mrs. Gordon, who lives at *Brechin*) has an Estate

state of about 500 *l. per Annum* Sterling; her Sister, the Lady Murray, allows her 50 *l. Sterling* upon my Account: So that I am absolutely one of the Family there; and she gives me 50 *l. Sterling* besides. So that I think you have run yourself into no Inconvenience by marrying me. And this is the reason of the Change you find in me now from what I was, when you left me at *Ardnaglass*.

And now if you are minded to give over rambling, and live with me contentedly, we may live happily together, and need not envy any Person in the Kingdom.

Here my Wife made an end of her Story, in which I cou'd not but grieve with her, for her Sufferings in the first part, and rejoyce with her for her good Fortune in the last. But I was extremely surpriz'd to hear that the Rogues that had robb'd me, and taken away my Money and Mantle, and left me bound in the Wood, had been so met with afterwards, and hang'd for those very things which they took away from me, tho' I knew
nothing

nothing of it: And I was glad to hear that my Foster-Father had my Mantle again, and that he did not know that I took it away. But I said nothing of all this to my Wife.

After she had ended her Narrative, and we had lain still some time, she ask'd me if I wou'd not now give her a Relation of my Travels, and how I went away from *Ardnaglass*? I told her it was time to go to sleep now; and that we shou'd have time enough for that another Night. To which she agreed, and so after having once more renewed our Conjugal Rites, we both fell asleep, and wak'd not till the Morning.

*Thus Fortune's Favourite I still remain,
And whoe'er loser, I am sure to gain.
Poor Dowglass had her Expectation cross,
And both her Mancey and her Husband lost.
But that I did what' right, all must confess,
In marrying of my pretty Shepherdess.
But tho' poor Dowglass was by her beguill'd,
She lost not all, because she got a Child;
And had in getting't many a Night of Pleasure.
And if she has Jenny's Luck 't may prove a
(Treasure.*

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

He goes with his Wife to Inverness, and by the way gives her a sham Relation of his own Travels. They are well receiv'd at Sir Alexander Murray's; he finds out a way to lie with this Lady unknown to herself, till afterwards; and how he came off. He pretends to be the Queen's Receiver, and leaves his Wife, under that pretence, to go a rambling. He is robb'd by a Gang of High-way Men, and enters himself into their Society.

THE next Day we staid and din'd at Badgenoth, with those who had grac'd our Wedding the Day before: And in the Afternoon went on our way toward Inverness, and lay that Night at Bean Castle: But as we rid along, my Wife put me upon giving her the History of my Travels, in requital for the Relation she had given me of hers. But I cou'd
not

not so readily do it as she ; for she had nothing to do but to tell the Truth ; whereas I was to tack together a parcel of Lies, to make it seem the more plausible : For she being very virtuous and chaste, I was ashamed to let her know what a Rogue I had been. And the better to excuse myself, I told her, I cou'd not tell how to give her a Relation of what began so unhappily, as with my parting from her, it wou'd so much renew my Grief for such a barbarous Action. I told her however, that when I went from *Ardnaglass*, I took the fine Mantle that I was found in, with what Gold I found there ; and also how I lost it ; which justify'd the dying Words of the Criminals that robb'd me, whom indeed they left bound in a Wood : Then I told her of my getting loose, and how I lay in a Barn where the Gypsies came, and how I was a while among them ; then I told her that a Gentleman taking a Fancy to me, took me into his Service ; and having found me very honest and faithful, got me to be one of the
Queen's

Queen's Receivers; and this, I said, was my present Business; and that which occasion'd me to tarry at *Montross*, where my Landlady and her Daughter fell in love with me; and having promis'd to marry the Daughter, I had some Business at *Aberdeen*, which, when I had dispatch'd, I came to *Brechin*, and sent for her, in order to marry her: That she came thither accordingly; and went with me to a Cousin of hers, with whom she intended to go and buy some things, in order to the Wedding next Day; when, in the mean time, you very happily sent for me; by which means I got a much better Wife, and poor *Dowglass* (for that is her Name) lost a good Husband.

Having thus finish'd my Relation, my Wife seem'd very well satisfy'd with it, but told me, that since I was in the Queen's Business, she believ'd that requir'd my Attendance pretty much. I was glad to hear her make that Remark; for by that I knew I cou'd have an Opportunity when I wou'd to ramble. So I told her

her that I cou'd dispenſe with it for a Week now and then.

At length we came to *Inverneſs*, where we were well entertain'd, and I was made very much on; and had ten Guineas preſented me by the Lady; who was indeed a very charming Perſon, and every way accompliſh'd; inſomuch that I did not doubt but if I cou'd but be her Bedfellow, I cou'd make her a Child of her own, without being beholden to another for theirs. But how to bring this Matter about, I knew not; for I was not well enough acquainted with the Houſe to know how the Land lay. However, upon Enquiry, I found that the Old Gentleman, her Husband, lay in a Bed by himſelf; and when he found in himſelf a Deſire of embracing his Wife, he wou'd then go to his Wife's Bed. Upon this I deſir'd my Wife to ſhew me the Houſe, which I pretended mightily to admire; and therefore was willing to ſee all the ſeveral Apartments; by which means I knew which was the Old Gentleman's Apartment, and which was his Wife's:
And

And I found that we all three lay upon one Floor; that is to say, the Old Gentleman's, his Wife's, and the Chamber wherein my Wife and I lay; I perceiv'd also that the Lady's Chamber was in the Center, between her Husband's and Our's where we lay.

These Observations being made, I resolv'd the first Opportunity, when my Wife was asleep, to make a Visit to the Lady's Chamber, and give her a cast of my Office: Which I did without being discover'd by my Wife, tho' not by the Lady. When I had accomplished my Desires, the next Day, as soon as I was up, I told my Wife, my Business now call'd me away; but I wou'd make but a short Stay Abroad, for I shou'd never be at Home but in her Arms: Nor, indeed, cou'd I be any where happier, for tho' my evil Inclinations prompted me to desire Change, yet I cou'd never change for a better: It was her Unhappiness to fall into the Hands of so bad a Husband; and my Unhappiness not to be contented with so charming a Wife. She told me she should

should be glad of my longer Stay with her, either there, or where I pleas'd ; but she wou'd not have me neglect my Business ; for having taken a Trust upon me, I ought to discharge it faithfully. I was once about to go away before our Lady Aunt (for so we call'd her) was got up, but I was afraid that might occasion some Discourse between my Wife and her, to my Disadvantage ; besides I had a mind to know what the Old Gentleman said to her, after he parted with me ; and therefore I resolv'd to await her rising. When she was up, and came down, I thank'd her for all the Civilities I had receiv'd from her since I came thither ; and told her, that my Business call'd me away for a time, but that I wou'd leave my Wife there. Whereupon she ask'd me to take a Turn in the Garden, which I readily accepted ; When we came there, she told me she was extreamly troubled at my unhappy Mistake last Night, and ask'd me wether my Wife knew or mistrusted any-thing about it ? I told her, Not
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in the least, and then gave her a Relation of what happen'd, as before related ; and desir'd she wou'd not suggest any-thing to my Wife about it, who had no manner of Mistrust: She told me, I need not give her any such Caution ; for the Regard she had to her own Reputation and Repose, was a sufficient Motive for her Silence. I desir'd to know what the Old Gentleman said concerning his meeting me at his Chamber-door: Says she, He told me, that you having been at the Vault, had mistaken his Chamber for your own ; but seem'd not to have the least Suspicion of your having been with me. After which, when I was for taking my Leave of her, she desir'd me to dine first, and take my Leave of her Husband ; which I did accordingly.

I had furnish'd myself at *Inverness* with a very good Fuzee, and a Pair of extraordinary Pocket-Pistols, and a very good Basket-hilted Sword, and a Dirk hanging by my side, and every way compleatly arm'd ; so that I was resolv'd upon Adventures when they offer'd

offer'd fairly, that I might make good the Title I had given myself of Receiver-General; and to this end I went out upon the Road, tho' I had then no Occasion for Money, but because my Inclination led me that way. And because I believ'd there wou'd be more Business in the *Low-Lands* than in the *High-Lands*, I resolv'd to go thither.

The first Day I met with nothing remarkable; which made me the next Morning bend my Course for *Edinburgh*, resolving to see the chief City in the Kingdom. But travelling between *Tullibardin* and *Dunblain*, there pass'd by me three Persons very well mounted, and a little after, at a good distance behind me, three more; but coming down to the bottom of a Hill, I perceiv'd the three that were before me to face about, and stand still; and then looking back, I saw the three that were behind me just come up to me, so that I saw there was now no escaping: Those before me, coming close up to me, bid me deliver my Money, or I was a dead Man. Whereupon,
with

with a smiling Countenance, Gentlemen, said I, what I have is at your Service, for I am bound to be kind to my Brethren, being one of the same Profession myself; and am very willing to be one of your Society. Upon this, they all came up close to me, and fell to examine my Pockets, where they found about 15 *l.* Sterling; which I told 'em, to make my self the more considerable, I had taken a little before as a Booty. And then shewing them the Pistols I had in my Boots and Pockets, they were easily induced to believe what I said; and so we rid all together to an Inn. But how I was admitted into their Society, the Articles that I swore to, upon my Admission, the several Villanies that I afterwards acted, and the various Adventures that I made, with the different Successes of them, shall be reserv'd for the second Part of my Life: Which, if it meets with a kind Acceptance, shall quickly see the Light.

